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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 27 2005

**II. AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATIONS:**

Please accept amendments to page 8, second full paragraph (starting at line 19) as follows:

I/O interfaces 14 may comprise any system for exchanging information to/from an external source. External devices 18 may comprise any known type of external device, including a Cathode Ray Tube (CRT), Light-Emitting Diode (LED) screen, hand-held device, keyboard, mouse, voice recognition system, speech output system, printer, facsimile, pager, personal digital assistant, cellular phone, web phone, etc. Bus 20 provides a communication link between each of the components in the computer system 11 and likewise may comprise any known type of transmission link, including electrical, optical, wireless, etc. In addition, although not shown, additional components, such as cache memory, communication systems, system software, etc., may be incorporated into computer system 11.

Please accept amendments to page 11, first full paragraph (starting at line 12) as follows:

Preferably the data submitted (i.e., in length L') by each provider 28 should have a particular format (e.g., Extensible Markup Language (XML)). One example of a data message is shown below:

Please accept amendments to page 15, first full paragraph (starting at line 15) as follows:

Program approval system 52 authorizes the use of a data analysis system 26 for analyzing data collected by data management system 10. Specifically, as shown in Fig. 1, computer system

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11 could be provided with a software program (i.e., data analysis system) that can manipulate the provided data. However, before a particular system 26 can be implemented, permission could be required. In a typical embodiment shown in Fig. 4, a group of experts 100 could create a new data analysis system 26. This data analysis system 26 is circulated among the member entities 100 102 A-F and each signs a well-defined hash of the data analysis system 26. The data analysis system 26 with all member signatures is then sent to the data management system 10, where all signatures are checked before the data analysis system 26 is accepted. Requests for actions of the existing program will similarly carry all needed signatures. In some case, copies of such requests will be kept by all members who can request the corresponding analysis at will, and unknowingly from the others. In other cases, all or some members must sign the inquiry just before it is made, or once for any inquiry with no control of the actual time of use. Validity of the signatures and their authority level will be checked with a tool such as Tivoli Policy Director.

Please accept amendments to page 19, second full paragraph (starting at line 11) as follows:

Referring back to Fig. [1] 2, communication with data management system 10 occurs via communication links 32. Communications links 32 can include a direct terminal connected to the data management system 10, or a remote workstation in a client-server environment. In the case of the latter, the client and server may be connected via the Internet, wide area networks (WAN), local area networks (LAN) or other private networks. The server and client may utilize conventional token ring connectivity, Ethernet, or other conventional communications standards. Where the client is connected to the system server via the Internet, connectivity could be

provided by conventional TCP/IP sockets-based protocol. In this instance, the client would utilize an Internet service provider outside the system to establish connectivity to the system server within the system.

Please accept amendments to paragraph at page 31, Abstract, as follows:

A data management system and method are provided. Specifically, the present invention includes a system for controlling access to data and ensuring that the confidentiality of the data is maintained. In addition, the present invention provides a system for updating data so that confidential data, which has become non-confidential, can be identified and exposed.